

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4208

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EXDIS

EO: 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: SNAR TU UN

SUBJ: TURKISH POPPY CONTROL PROGRAM

REF: A. STATE 129350; B. GENEVA 4128; C. ANKARA 4350

1. RE PARA 2 REF C, WE ARE OF COURSE IN ACTIVE COMMUNICATION WITH TURKISH MISSION RE PRICE ANNOUNCEMENT. THEY TELL US PRESENT POSITION IS THAT "MINISTERS" WERE SCHEDULED TO MEET MORNING OF JUNE 5 AND THAT "MINISTER" WAS EXPECTED ISSUE ANNOUNCEMENT ON PRICE BY NOON ANKARA TIME. WE HAVE EXPRESSED TO TURKISH MISSION OUR SERIOUS CONCERN AT GOT'S FAILURE ANNOUNCE PRICE "AT LATEST AFTERNOON JUNE 3" IN ACCORDANCE ASSURANCES THEY GAVE SEPARATELY TO UN AND TO US (REF B). TURKISH MISSION HAS EXPRESSED REGRET AT DELAY, WHICH THEY ATTRIBUTE TO COMPLICATION ON FORMALITIES, AND SAY THEY ARE ACTIVELY PRESSING MATTER ANKARA.

2. ON QUESTION UN OBSERVERS (REF C, PARA 1), AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED WE AND UN HAVE REPEATEDLY STRESSED ADVANTAGES TO TURKEY AS WELL AS WORLD COMMUNITY OF IMPARTIAL ON-THE-GROUND ASSESSMENT OF CONTROL MEASURES. AS ADDRESSEES ALSO AWARE, GOT HAS NOT YET ACCEPTED SUCH IDEA, ALTHOUGH KIRCA HAS SAID HE RECOGNIZES DESIRABILITY OF UN PRESENCE AND WILL TRY WORK OUT INFORMAL ARRANGEMENTS.

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3. UN CURRENTLY HAS IN MIND, AS INITIAL STEP, SEEKING GOT AGREE-

MENT RECEIVE MANBY (CONSULTANT IN CHARGE OF UNFDAC PROGRAM FOR CONTROL ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY) ON BASIS BROAD TERMS OF REFERENCE RELATED HIS CONSULTING AND ASCERTAINING STATUS OF CURRENT AND PROJECTED UN ASSISTANCE AND ITS RELATIONSHIP TO OVERALL TURKISH CONTROL PROGRAM. IN THIS CONNECTION MANBY PROPOSES PROCEED TO ANKARA JUNE 17, POSSIBLY ACCOMPANIED BY EMBLAD. IDEA IS THAT HE WOULD TEAM-UP WITH QUENTIN JONES (USDA) WHO WILL BE IN ANKARA JUNE 12-20 TO REVIEW ARS BILATERAL RESEARCH PROJECTS WHICH ARE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT POPPY-GROWING REGION. OUR PLAN IS THAT MANBY COULD ACCOMPANY QUENTIN JONES ON SOME OF HIS VISITS TO POPPY REGION IN ORDER OBTAIN SOME FIRST-HAND IMPRESSION OF CONTROL OPERATION AT FIELD LEVEL. HOWEVER, IN VIEW PRESENT SENSITIVITIES, AS INTERPRETED BY AMBASSADOR KIRCA AND REPORTED REF B, THIS WOULD HAVE BE UNDERTAKEN ON BASIS EXCEEDINGLY LOW PROFILE. IN REPORTING MANBY'S PROPOSED PLANS, NOTE SHOULD BE TAKEN THAT THESE PLANS HAVE NOT YET BEEN AGREED TURKISH SIDE.

3. WE RECOGNIZE THAT FOREGOING DOES NOT PROVIDE MUCH ASSISTANCE IN COPING WITH ANSWERS TO QUESTION(S) POSED REF A. BUT WE ARE CONTINUING EFFORTS TO TRY PERSUADE AMBASSADOR KIRCA TO RECOMMEND THAT GOT INVITE UN OBSERVERS.DALE

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